

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

17 January 1979

Dear Howard,

How nice of you to invite me to talk to The Sons of the American Revolution as far away as the end of February of next year. There are few people I would rather support in something like this than yourself. Unfortunately, I am just not going to be able to in this case.

Let me explain that the number of invitations I receive to give speeches is far more than I can possibly accept. We have to narrow the field on a number of grounds. One is simply to keep the number within manageable bounds so that I can get my work done. Another is to concentrate on very large audiences in a wide variety of geographical areas throughout the country. Still another, perhaps unfortunately, is to select as many audiences who don't support the Central Intelligence Agency as possible. This latter is certainly an unfair treatment of people like yourself and the S.A.R. who are our strong supporters. We are so beset by criticism today, however, that I have felt it best to get out and meet the critics on their own turf.

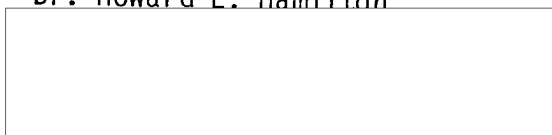
I truly wish I could be more responsive. I am just afraid that I have to stick to our basic policies or I am likely to get caught up in all manner of exceptions. My apologies to you, and Pat's and my warm regards to you and Betsy.

Yours,



STANSFIELD TURNER

Dr. Howard L. Hamilton



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